

JULY 1957

PRICE 6d.

N.S.S. NEWS

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE NATIONAL SPASTICS SOCIETY



(Photo: Courtesy News Chronicle)



AT THE S.O.S.
ANNUAL MEETING

(See Pages 3 and 4)

LETTERS

A Parent's Comments on "Ample Provision for Spastics"

Dear Editor,

As a parent of a Spastic or physically and mentally handicapped child, I feel it my duty to comment on the report of the meeting of the Divisional Health Committee in Manchester. From reading the report it would appear that these unfortunate children are well taken care of by the quotation "that there was ample statutory provision for these things." This is contradicted by the statement of County Councillor Davies who says: "he would like to know if there were any children or adults who were not receiving treatment, education, or training in accordance with their needs."

Some Doubt?

Surely this should not arise if as Dr. Simpson states that "the general care of these children was not being neglected by the county council."

County Councillor Davies must have some doubt about the treatment or lack of treatment given to these child-

ren, and I can assure him that the county council have done absolutely nothing for my child except advise us to have the child certified as ineducable so that, should anything happen to us as parents, then the child will be taken care of by the State.

For five years we have attended one morning each month as an out-patient with the child at one of the Manchester hospitals to have prescribed tablets which we can buy at the chemist. Further, apart from visits by a welfare officer which have been less than one per year, this child of ours has never been examined by the local or divisional medical officer.

Charity Essential

My child is not the only one in the Denton district who is left at home in care of its parents, and I am prepared to go before any board to state my case. Whether the National Spastics Society (Manchester and District Group) should become a charity is not for me to decide, but the need for such an organisation is essential if the forgotten or outcast children like mine are to have a chance in life.

I should like to state that one favour I have had from the local medical officer is an application form signed with a view to my child being

admitted to a special treatment centre, the centre being run by the N.S.S.

It is quite obvious to me that the county council have no place of treatment other than the mental institution for such a child as mine, and unless the N.S.S. or some other charitable organisation come to our help then we shall have to carry on at home trying to cultivate a weed.

Yours sincerely,

G. PREST,
9, Mansfield Close,
Denton, Cheshire.

The Stationery Problem

Dear Editor,

The rising cost of stationery is one of the many headaches which the Secretary of an organisation concerned with social work has to meet. For some five hundred such bodies the answer has been provided by a co-operative society formed especially for the purpose.

Since all profits are distributed among the member-organisations in the form of a dividend, the amount of which in the year just ended was 4d in the £ on all purchases, the nett cost is appreciably below that of goods from most other suppliers.

An additional attraction is the offer of a discount to those who settle their bills promptly, and carriage is paid to any part of the country. The business is directed by a committee elected by and from the member-bodies. I would welcome enquiries from those interested in this scheme.

Yours faithfully,

EYRE CARTER,
The Secretary,
Social Service Supplies Ltd.,
142, Drummond Street,
London, N.W.1.

Who's got a Pony?

Dear Editor,

I wonder if any of your readers know of an extremely well-behaved and docile pony which we need for one of our schools?

He would be assured of a very warm welcome from some small Spastic children who cannot yet manage to ride a tricycle or pedal motor-car, but long to take part in the outdoor activities.

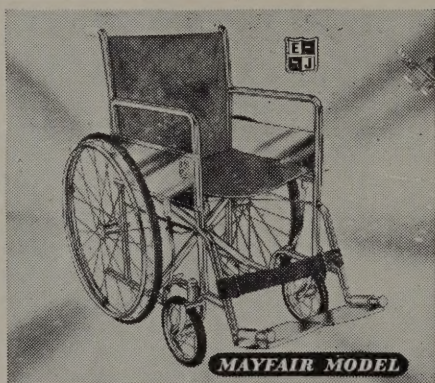
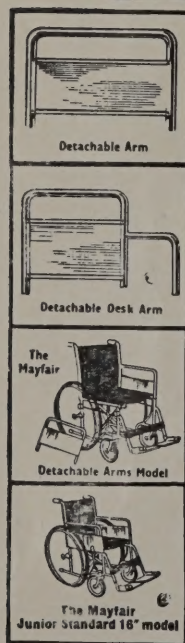
The pony would have an excellent home, and would be the "household" pet of 30 Spastic children (and the staff).

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) C. A. CLIFTON,
Projects Secretary,
National Spastics Society,
28, Fitzroy Square,
London, W.1.

N.S.S. NEWS, JULY, 1957.

'EVEREST & JENNINGS' FOLDING WHEELCHAIRS



The EVEREST & JENNINGS Service does not end with the supplying of the World's finest folding wheelchairs. It embraces also the most complete and comprehensive range of accessories, which in combination with the exclusively featured wheelchairs, make the greatest material contribution to progress in the rehabilitation of the disabled.

Illustration is the Mayfair 8 in. castor model
Write for fully illustrated catalogue F.W.33

London Office:

Zimmer House, 176/8 Brompton Road, S.W.3



Manufactured by

ZIMMER ORTHOPAEDIC LTD
BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN, G.B. Tel: Bridgend 938

Suppliers
to the
Ministry
of Health

How the S.O.S. Helps Spastics

The S.O.S. Committee (some of whom appear on this month's cover) has just held its annual general meeting. Under the capable chairmanship of the president, the Countess of Westmorland, these enthusiastic Stars stole valuable time from their busy lives to attend, and to decide the "hows and whens" of the coming Cricket Match. Vera Lynn was elected chairman, and Cyril Stapleton, vice-chairman.

Since its formation in June of 1955, the S.O.S. (Stars Organisation for Spastics) has given tremendous help to the cause of Spastics. Not that this is a new thing, for Stars have always rallied round to help the N.S.S.—but then they were working individually.

"We Want To Do More"

The whole thing started at a party which the Society had organised to say "thank you" to the many celebrated people who had helped them. The Stars said, "Well, it's nice to know we are appreciated but we feel we could do more for you". So they banded themselves together with the object of forming a permanent galaxy. The first meeting was held at the home of Mrs. W. Cecil Jeapes (now vice-president). She has generously been hostess for all subsequent meetings.

This meeting was jammed packed with bright ideas. Roger Livesey suggested the name S.O.S., the Stars Annual Ball was suggested, and what has become an annual feature (entertaining, but not strictly cricket), the Stars Cricket Match.

"Surprise" Guests

There wasn't much time to plan for the cricket match, for they hoped to hold it within a few weeks of that meeting. To make sure that everybody knew about it a number of Stars, equipped with a loudspeaker van, toured the surrounding towns, announcing it to all and sundry. They became "surprise" guests at cinemas, when they walked on stage to tell delighted audiences their plans.

That match, and the one last year, were both held on the grounds of J. Lyons and over 10,000 people turned up to watch. The cricket had to be seen to be believed. With Wilfred Pickles and Boris Karloff doing the umpiring, anything could happen—and everything did.

The next S.O.S. function was the Ball held at Grosvenor House in November of 1955. A truly starry occasion, graced by a galaxy of entertainers.

A Sell-out!

The following March brought the first Record Star Show. The Daily Express sponsored it, and extensive publicity resulted in a sell-out of the 6,500 tickets in three weeks. All the stars who performed at the concert gave their services free of charge. Another feature of this concert was the merry band of buskers who performed outside the Albert Hall led by Jimmy Edwards and Tommy Cooper.

These three functions, the Cricket Match, the Ball, and the Record Star Show, have become regular entertainment highlights of the year. This year there wasn't even time to publicise the Record Star Show for all the seats were sold before a notice could appear in the paper. There is going to be one next year too, but intending patrons had better hurry, for over 1,000 seats have been booked already.

This year's Cricket Match, whose

teams are the Damn Yankees (from the musical show in London) and the Blithering Britishers (British entertainment stars) is expected to again draw a record crowd.

Holiday Home

What are the Stars doing it for? To help Spastics generally, but in particular, to open a holiday home where Spastic children can have—to quote chairman, Vera Lynn—"the holiday of their lives". A home such as this will fill a national need, for many Spastic children are unable under ordinary circumstances to enjoy a holiday away from home because of their handicaps.

£12,000 So Far

All the Stars are determined that this objective should be achieved as soon as possible. It is estimated that about £25,000 will be needed for this 'really special place'. Already almost £12,000 has been raised towards this target.

The Spastics are relying on the Stars for this project, and the Stars in their turn are relying on the generosity of the warm-hearted public to turn this dream into reality.



Rolf Thomassen, holding the brush between his teeth, at work on a painting of Christ

BEYOND TODAY

The autobiography of
ROLF THOMASSEN

The moving autobiography of a spastic who fought an amazing battle against his handicap and became not only independent but an artist of note.

"An impassioned portrait of frustrated youth, without a line of self-pity. A powerful book, that proves that the barriers and problems can be overcome"—N.S.S. NEWS

Illustrated 12/6

ROBERT HALE

NATIONAL SPASTICS SOCIETY

Registered in accordance with the National Assistance Act, 1948

28, FITZROY SQUARE,
LONDON, W.1.

Telephone: EUSton 5651 (5 lines)

Patrons:

The Rt. Hon. LORD ALDENHAM
The Most Rev. His Grace THE LORD
ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY
THE COUNTESS OF DERBY
Dr. SOMERVILLE HASTINGS.
M.B., M.S., F.R.C.S., M.P.
The Rt. Hon. ANTHONY HEAD, C.B.E., M.C., M.P.
The Rt. Hon. VISCOUNT KILMUIR, G.C.V.O.
(Lord Chancellor)
The Rt. Hon. VISCOUNT KNOLLYS,
G.C.M.G., M.B.E., D.F.C.
The Rt. Rev. THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.
CHRISTOPHER P. MAYHEW, Esq., M.P.
GWEN, LADY MELCHETT
The Rev. the Moderator of THE FREE CHURCH
FEDERAL COUNCIL
The Rt. Hon. HERBERT MORRISON, C.H., M.P.
The Most Hon. THE MARCHIONESS OF
NORTHAMPTON
WILFRED PICKLES, Esq., O.B.E.
The Very Rev. THE CHIEF RABBI
Rabbi ISRAEL BRODIE
The Most Hon. THE MARQUESS OF READING,
P.G., C.B.E., G.C.
The Most Rev. THE ARCHBISHOP OF
WESTMINSTER
The Most Hon. MARIE, MARCHIONESS OF
WILLINGDON, C.I., G.B.E., LL.D.

Vice-Presidents:

J. CLEON HUBBARD, Esq.
P. B. LUCAS, Esq., D.S.O., D.F.C., M.P.
Dr. SYDNEY NORTHCOLE, D.M.S.
The DOWAGER LADY RAMSDEN, M.D.
J. LESLIE WILLIAMS, Esq.

Chairman:

I. D. DAWSON SHEPHERD, Esq.

Hon. Secretary:

E. HODGSON, Esq., B.Sc.

Hon. Treasurer:

A. MOIRA, Esq., A.R.I.B.A.

MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Professor ALAN MONCRIEFF, (Chairman).
C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P.
Nuffield Professor of Child Health, Institute of Child
Health, London University Hospital for Sick
Children, Great Ormond Street, London.
Dr. MARY CAPE, M.B., D.P.M.
Psychiatrist, Children's Hospital and Child Guidance
Centre, Southampton.
Dr. J. E. CROSLAND, M.R.C.S., D.PHYS.MED.
Physician, Physical Medicine Dept., Central
Middlesex Hospital, and Physician, St. Margaret's
School for Cerebral Palsy.
Dr. RONALD MACKIE, D.M., F.R.C.P.
Assistant Physician in the Children's Dept., Guy's
Hospital, and Paediatrician to the Tavistock Clinic.
Professor A. V. NEALE, M.D., F.R.C.P.
Professor of Child Health,
The Children's Hospital, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.
Mr. I. M. ROBERTSON, M.B., F.R.C.S.
Chief Assistant, Orthopaedics Unit, St. Bartholomew's
Hospital; and Director of Orthopaedic, Croydon
Group.

Director:

DR. CHARLES P. STEVENS,
M.B.E., M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.)

Director of Medical Research:

Dr. PAUL E. POLANI, M.D., M.R.C.P.

General Secretary:

C. PRITCHARD, B.A.

Published by the National Spastics Society,
28 Fitzroy Square, London, W.1. Printed by
H. C. Dunckley (Wrotham) Ltd.,
Borough Green, Kent.

OPINION

Where credit is due credit is expected. Sometimes however, people individually, and collectively, become over-sensitive in the guardianship of their pride of achievement. They flinch at the slightest attempt, whether intentional or not, to diminish the glory that is rightfully theirs.

Members of a Divisional Health Committee of a County Council recently reacted in just this way when considering an application from an N.S.S. Group for registration as a charity under the National Assistance Act, 1948.

The application was rejected because the Councillors felt that the Group was claiming a monopoly in the care of Spastics. The Committee was quite upset that the declaration of the Group's objects should contain the little word "effect." The Councillors demanded an amendment which would, if adopted, water down the "objects clause" of the Group's constitution.

The group should not be allowed "to effect," but only "to supplement!" The County Council was, in the Committee's view, covering the situation quite satisfactorily.

There is absolutely no doubt that this particular County Council has made excellent provision for Spastics—an achievement of which they can be justly proud. But the Group concerned is equally proud of what it has

done and intends to do. This was, we are sure, no calculated attempt to steal the crown of glory from the honourable Councillors.

The dictionary defines "effect" as "to bring about," "to accomplish." If the aim of charity is not to get things done, then what can it be? The more people and bodies there are working for the good of Spastics, the better. The lot of Spastics has improved during recent years because both the voluntary and official agencies have been "bringing about"—"accomplishing."

The Authorities and the N.S.S. all contributed. The rapid improvement in facilities for Spastics came about because people were working far too busily to worry about credits. Had those interested in the cause spent their time quibbling over the import of words, little would have been achieved.

We publicly acknowledge once more the good work that has been done so far by the Local Authorities, particularly for educable Spastic children. But, with respect, we still say that more needs to be done.

The Society wants to work hand in hand with all Authorities, but without acrimony. If there is to be any credit for anyone let it be for the Spastics, both young and old, who are trying so hard, often against incalculable odds, to take their place along with the rest of us.

Our Cover: The Stars Committee plans the S.O.S. Cricket Match. President, Lady Westmorland and Chairman, Vera Lynn, discuss the details. Confering also are (left to right: Avril Angers, Hazel Court, Diane Hart, Dora Bryan, and Geraldine McEwan).

IN THIS ISSUE

Editor: Shirley Keene

Vol. V. No. 7.

July, 1957

Letters	2	News from the Groups... ..	10
How the S.O.S. Helps Spastics	3	Schools and Centres	12
Opinion	4	Employment	16
Countrywide—		Committee Comments	
Reporting National News ...	5	by Eric Hodgson	18
Football Pools		The Feminine Touch	19
Will Help Spastics	9	List of Group Secretaries ...	20
		Regional Notes	23

N.S.S. NEWS, JULY, 1957.

COUNTRYWIDE

REPORTING NATIONAL NEWS ABOUT SPASTICS

TV Spastics at London Airport

34 Spastic children from North and West London were featured in the Independent Television News recently. They were seen visiting London Airport, and being shown giant transatlantic air liners.

The children were taken round the airport by coach, with an official guide who described the work of the maintenance bays, workshops and hangers. They ended their visit with a chicken lunch at the airport restaurant. The outing was paid for by the hardworking members of the North-West London Group.

"It was a wonderful day. I had never seen children enjoy themselves more", said Mrs. E. Chalfin, of the North West London Group. "The people at London Airport really put themselves out to give the kiddies a good time. It would be an excellent outing for any Group".

Five Raised £250

Five Mitcham mothers whose children attend the Croydon Clinic, arranged a house-to-house collection in their area. With help from members of the parish church, they raised £250.

Gift for Brighton Centre

A room at the Brighton centre, Hamilton House, is to be named the Blandford Room. A presentation has been made to pay for its furnishing from funds subscribed by delegates to

N.S.S. NEWS, JULY, 1957.

a recent Co-operative congress. The room is to commemorate Thomas Blandford who was a pioneer of the Co-operative movement.

Socials for South Shields Spastics

The South Shields Council of Social Service is organising a "get-together" for Spastic children and their parents



Photo: Courtesy Shields Gazette
At the social centre in South Shields 3-year old Spastic Shirley Cook plays happily with her new friend, 9-year old Maureen Smith.

at the headquarters of the United Housewives Association. The children will bring their favourite toys to play with. The Council hopes that this will give the Spastics more social life, and help equip them to mix with non-handicapped people.

Although the first assembly will just be for the Spastics, it is hoped later to arrange socials with those who are not handicapped. Ultimately, a parents

association may be formed, and various outings arranged. There are about 30 Spastic children in South Shields who will benefit from the Council's scheme, it is believed.

£56 Concert In South London Pub

The Thomas a Beckett pub in the Old Kent Road was packed to overflowing the other evening when Vic Chester, Ricky James, the Rebels Skiffle Group, and the Randall Brothers put on a fast-moving variety show in aid of Spastics.

This rip-roaring concert nearly lifted the Lonsdale Belt—proud possession of landlord Joe Lucy, former British lightweight boxing champion — from the wall behind the bar.

Many local people, including a Cub pack, had donated gifts to be auctioned and raffled, and Ricky James was successfully billed as auctioneer. Over £56 was raised. After-show comments: Organiser Mr. Kay: "We're keen to do another show soon". Film star Stanley Baker: "A wonderful evening at my 'local'".

Now, He's Tearing His Hair !

At a Stevenage, Herts. fête, in which the Hitchin Group had a soft-drinks stall, Mr. B. Martin of Hitchin had the hair-raising experience of winning a free permanent wave in a competition. A lucky permutation?

Drayton House to be Bedford's Centre

It was announced at its annual meeting that the Bedford Group had raised £1,482 during the previous year. The secretary, Miss A. E. Kidder, said in her report that the outstanding achievement of the year was the acquisition of Drayton House in Bromham-road. It is to be used as a centre for Spastics of all ages, and a nursery school for the under-fives.

Miss M. G. Murray, who is shortly resigning her position as chairman, said that she hoped that Drayton

House would become a centre for all the Group's activity. At present, she said, about 50 Spastics were waiting to receive treatment, but she was sure that there were others, possibly in Kempston and Biggleswade, who were still unknown to the Group.

Swansea's Second Fête

The Swansea Group held its second annual fête at Longfields, West Cross. Held to raise funds to help support the Spastic nursery, it was opened by the Mayoress, Mrs. H. Edmund. She expressed her delight at seeing so many people supporting such a worthy cause. Mrs Edmund said that both the Mayor and herself were impressed by the great work accomplished by the Group, and she hoped that their efforts that day would meet with the success it deserved. 6-year old Ann Morgan, who attends the nursery, presented the Mayoress with a bouquet.

The fête, although not realising the Group's target, raised £300. The nursery's running costs are now about £3,000 a year. 15 children attend and receive treatment from skilled staff.

The nursery was opened two years ago, and there has been close co-ordination with the Department of the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. E. D. Meyrick.



Courtesy Ilford Recorder.

Dave King Stars at Ilford's Fête

Dave King and Maudie Edwards were kept busy signing autographs at the Ilford fête. Ilford's Secretary, Mrs.

Cecily McCaul, made sure that the event was truly star-studded for, in addition to the Stars shown here, Carol Marsh, Elvie Hale, Joan Linden, Brian Forbes, Vic Maddern, and disc jockey Len Marten, helped on stalls and sideshows.

This was the first fête Mrs. McCaul has organised. In spite of the work she said, "I enjoyed doing it—we are hoping to make it an annual affair".

Spastic's Outstanding Painting

One of the outstanding exhibits in an International Art Exhibition was a painting by Rosemary Dawson Shepherd, a Spastic, who is at the Thomas Delarue School. It is a landscape showing a group of poplars beside a stream. Rosemary is only able to make one short movement with her left hand, and therefore starts her painting in the centre and works outwards.

The paper she works on is turned upsidedown or sideways by a friend as the work progresses, and the art teacher mixes the colours from Rosemary's instructions, as she cannot manage this herself. Several other students from the Thomas Delarue School exhibited at this display which was held in Croydon's Civic Hall. 22 countries, including Russia, Germany, New Zealand, Japan, and Sarawak, were represented.

The Organiser, Mrs. Margaret Male, said that every painting received showed considerable skill, but those done by the pupils at the N.S.S. school were really first-class considering the handicap of the artists.

Gift for Leicester

Mr. S. Burdett, chairman of the Leicester Group, spoke to the Hinckley Ladies Circle and thanked members most warmly for their donation of a special chair. This will be used by children attending the Group's day centre at Aylestone.

In the following week Mr. Burdett was presented with a cheque for £350 by the High Bailiff, Alderman Bert Powell, when the Leicester College Rag proceeds were distributed.

Friend of Southampton Spastics

Mrs. F. R. Price recently put her garden at the disposal of the Southampton Group, and the children enjoyed a party in the sun. They

Ample Provision for Spastics —Says Health Committee

At a meeting of the Divisional Health Committee in Manchester, County Councillor H. Davies said that propaganda put out by a voluntary Spastics Group gave the misleading impression that statutory authorities were not doing their job. He said that this was to the effect that the education, training, and treatment of Spastics were dependent upon the Group.

These comments arose when the Divisional Health Committee had before it an application by the Manchester and District Group of the N.S.S. for registration as a charity. Councillor Davies said that if the propaganda was true it means that the County Council, the National Health Service, and the Education Authority were failing in their duty. There was, in fact, ample statutory provision. He commented that it was sometimes vexatious for the impression to be given that it was all dependent on charity.

County Councillor Davies also said he would like to know if there are any children or adults in the division who were not receiving treatment, education, or training, in accordance with their needs?

Dr. A. S. Simpson said there was no

doubt that the Lancashire County Council was covering the situation quite thoroughly. They were making full provision for crippled children generally, and Spastics in particular. To his mind, the precise objects of the N.S.S. Manchester Group were not quite correct. They aimed to "effect and extend the care" of Spastics.

He said the care was being "effected" by the authority, but perhaps it was permissible to extend the care on particular lines. Alderman N. Booth suggested it might be wise to tell the Group that the committee was prepared to consider the request for registration providing the word "effect" was deleted from the objects of the Group.

If the application was amended to read "extra care or additional care" the committee would give it every consideration. Councillor F. Hilson commented that he felt there was plenty of room for voluntary organisations in the National Health Service, but it should first be ensured that the aims and objects were correctly stated before they were recognised.

(See Opinion—Page 4 and Letter—Page 2)

arrived in three coaches, about 100 of them, to play in the beautiful grounds.

Mrs. Price is a constant help to the Group. Each week she drives the children to and fro between their homes and the centre. If she can't make her weekly journey then she pays for transport.

"Happy Circle's" First Birthday

"The Happy Circle", a social club which is being run by members of the Central Middlesex Group, had its first birthday party recently. This club, catering for handicapped persons in the area, has a gay and informal atmosphere bringing much pleasure into the lives of the people who have few social activities.

The life and soul of the party, and indeed of all the meetings, is Mr. Tony Dibbs, who organises games so adroitly that they seem completely spontaneous. This was most obvious at the party when the Mayor of Harrow, Mr. Harold Grainger, and several of the local clergy outdid the assembly by winning the nursery rhyme singing competition!

There was an uproarious game of musical chairs, and a local skiffle group and a team of folk-dancers entertained. A magnificent tea was served for the 30 handicapped people who attended, and each received a small gift.

The Mayor, who had dropped in for only a moment, stayed for over an hour. This club, so aptly named the "Happy Circle", was warmly congratulated on its efforts by the Mayor who said that he felt they had started something which might well become a national movement.

£5 in Two Hours

A visitor to Windermere who found himself with a spare hour or two on a day trip decided to help out with the flag day which the Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness Spastic Society was running. He applied to one of the organisers, collected a tin and some

flags, and in two hours raised £5 9s. 6d.

This kindly gentleman was Mr. Golborn of Southport, and he comments, "Perhaps holidaying teenagers, and the like, might like to follow the idea up as it is for a good cause".

Grimsby Centre's Open Day

Grimsby Treatment Centre held its open day recently. For two of the children it was a very special day indeed, for two gifts were presented to



At the "Happy Circle's" first birthday, Mr. Harold Grainger, the Mayor of Harrow, looks at the "Circle's diary" with the organisers, Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Master of Ceremonies, Tony Dibbs.

the centre. One given by Mr. G. Osgar, on behalf of the R.A.O.B., was a new tricycle, and the other, a special chair, presented by Mr. E. Chubb on behalf of the Shire club.

The visitors enjoyed watching 12-year old Martin being wheeled round the room on the tricycle. He cannot yet turn the pedals himself but it is felt it would be a great help in strengthening his leg muscles. 4-year old Judith, played in the chair with her toys on the tray fixed to it.

No Help for Bridgwater

Bridgwater Group's application for financial assistance has been declined by the Health Committee of the Somerset County Council. Previously, the Education Committee had also declined to help as it held that although being fully in sympathy with the motives of the Bridgwater Group, adequate provision was already made for those children capable of benefiting from education.

Susan's Pram Improves Her Walking

Five year old Spastic Susan Crick, our last month's cover girl, realised an ambition when she pushed her new twin dolls pram to the park near her

THE DUKE TO ATTEND CONGRESS

The Duke of Edinburgh is to attend the Seventh World Congress being held by the International Society for the Welfare of Cripples. The conference opens on July 22nd, and the Duke is expected to attend on Tuesday, the 23rd. He will be present when the general theme of INTEGRATION OF SERVICES will be discussed.

Tuesday is the day when most of the speakers on Cerebral Palsy will address delegates. The chairman of the International Society World Commission on Cerebral Palsy—Dr. C. D. S. Agassiz—will be in the chair. Professor R. S. Illingworth of Sheffield University will speak on Early Diagnosis, Dr. H. Janseunne on Evaluation of Intelligence, and Dr. O. S. Bohne of Germany will concentrate on the vocational side of the problem. The discussion which follows will be opened by Dr. S. Brandt of Denmark, and Dr. A. Buckwold of Canada will also participate.

On Thursday, 25th July, after a

short meeting, visits have been arranged to various Spastic centres for delegates who are concerned with this subject. This brief meeting will be chaired by Dr. B. Andersen of Norway, and Miss A. M. Mathams of Westerlea School in Edinburgh, and Dr. E. Hansen of Denmark, will speak. Miss A. M. Krohn of Finland, and Dr. R. S. Dabney from the U.S.A. will lead the discussion that follows.

This congress has several innovations. In addition to the talks, an exhibition has been arranged in connection with it. Technical equipment and aids for the handicapped will be shown, and there will be demonstrations of various crafts. This exhibition will be open to the general public, and held at Central Hall, Westminster. Opened for the duration of the congress from July 22nd to 27th, there will be a small charge for admission.

Other unusual points about this congress are that discussion of sports for the disabled, and employment in agriculture, will be featured.

home. Until a few weeks ago Susan could not walk, and was given the pram as a reward for taking her first unaided steps.

"It is surprising how much the pram has improved her walking. It has made all the difference to her outlook on life", said her father. "The Fairy Godfather who sent it can be proud of his good deed".

Of Sovereign Worth

An anonymous donor sent a golden sovereign to N.S.S. headquarters to be used "for your worthy cause". It was raffled among members of the staff and realised £3 17s. for N.S.S. funds.

Problem Becomes Known in Essex

The hon. secretary of the Essex Group, Mrs. S. Plewis, reported a satisfactory year's work at the annual meeting. She said that as a result of meetings many more of the general public knew what a Spastic was, and realised the great problem that faced

all who were working towards more treatment centres, schools, and homes.

Spastic Guides Go to Norway

Just returned from a 10-day trip to Norway is 30-year old Spastic Wendy Hayward of Cleveland Road, Uxbridge. Unable to walk, she has been able to enjoy the delightful Scandanavian scenery from her stretcher. Her holiday was arranged by the Extension Girl Guides movement, who take parties of handicapped girl guides abroad every other year.

This was Wendy's second trip with the Guides, the first was to Holland two years ago. She has been a member of the Guides for 20 years, and attends camp every year. The wonderful time she had in Norway was tinged with a little sadness for it is the last excursion she can make with the Guides. Her next birthday makes her ineligible for future holidays with them.

Another Spastic girl who enjoyed the Norwegian adventure was Beryl Beck-

ford of Hillingdon. The West Drayton Girl Guides saved up for her fare as their 'good deed of the year'. They also presented Beryl, who is bed-fast, with a television set last year.

Down in The Forest Something Stirred

A ceiling-high penny pile in the Forester's Arms at Meeksham Forest in Wiltshire grew so tall that it had to be bound to the wall so that it wouldn't topple before its official "felling". When dismantled and counted it was found to be £25 worth of solid copper.

Children See Sheep-Shearing

Sheep-shearing was the topic for many days after a visit to Pentwyn Farm by Craig-y-parc schoolchildren. The farm is close to the school, and owner Mrs. Evans, also a patron of Craig-y-parc, arranged for the students to attend the demonstration. To many, it was their first glimpse of farm life.

THE INDEPENDENT CHAIR

Constructed from tubular steel, and incorporating a simple to operate lift and tilt action, the Independent Chair enables handicapped persons to stand up or sit down unaided.

Each position is obtained by the movement of a single lever, which may be placed on either side of chair as required, and the use of hydraulic power ensures easy control even for a crippled or partially paralysed hand.

Write for further details to:

STANLEY COX LTD.

PHYSIOTHERAPY EQUIPMENT AND ELECTRO-MEDICAL APPARATUS
93/97 NEW CAVENDISH STREET, LONDON, W.1.
Telephone: LAngham 455116 Telegrams: Stanlicox, Wesdo

NORTH OF ENGLAND: D.6, Victoria Buildings, 32 Deansgate, Manchester, 3. Phone: DEA. 3726.
SCOTTISH REPRESENTATIVE: H. A. West (X-ray) Ltd. 41 Watson Crescent, Edinburgh. Phone: EDIN. 68538.
MIDLANDS REPRESENTATIVE: J. W. Herbert, 19 Woodland Avenue, West Hagley, Stourbridge, Worcs.

1



2



3



FOOTBALL POOLS WILL HELP SPASTICS

A new organisation has been formed to help Spastics. With Wilfred Pickles as president, the Friends of Spastics League has come into being for the purpose of collecting donations from football pool enthusiasts so as to swell the funds for more schools and centres for Spastic children and adults.

The new football pool, which will go into action at the start of the soccer season, will be the first big prize pool to give the investor two incentives for his shilling. For every shilling invested there will be 10 chances of winning cash prizes—10 chances for 10d. Spastics will get 2d which will be a direct donation to the Friends of Spastics League. The largest prize will be **50 PER CENT OF THE POOL**, and there will be other advantages.

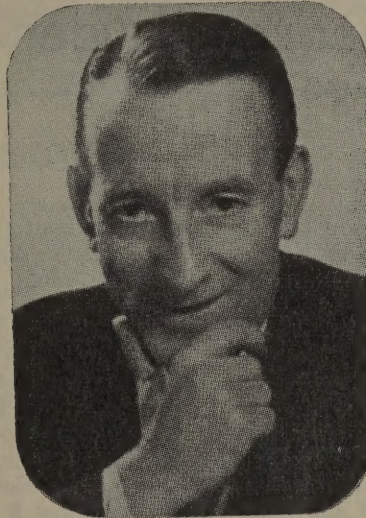
Pool administration costs are being cut to the minimum, very much below the legally approved level. When the pool reaches a high turnover, the promoters' commission will be reduced to $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent.

The Friends of Spastics League has been formed to extract for Spastics a share of the vast flow of cash which is channelled to the pools as soon as football starts. This, however, is a pool with a difference.

This pool is not being run by the Friends of Spastics League, but out of

every shilling entry 2d will go direct to Spastics without deduction of any kind. The remaining 10d will be set aside by the promoters to enable the pool to offer the biggest possible prizes.

The Friends of Spastics League is not a commercial undertaking; it will



Wilfred Pickles is president of the newly-formed Friends of Spastics League.

only be accepting 2d donations from the many thousands who have already shown their willingness to help Spastics of all ages—and who also like a flutter on the pools.

The N.S.S. last year had to find £200,000 to maintain its national schools and residential training centres alone; 8 are in operation, and another is approaching completion. Much more, of course, is needed to assist local treatment projects, of which there are now 40, and to maintain a substantial medical research programme.

There are about 30,000 Spastics in this country, and although in its five short years of existence, the N.S.S. has been able to open all these centres, many more are needed. There are still thousands of helpless Spastic children and adults who desperately need more treatment and special education.

One in a thousand of every child born is Spastic, and without special treatment they may never learn to walk, to speak, to feed and dress themselves—simple little things that unhandicapped people take for granted. Treatment means hope for them, hope of being able to live a more normal life

and take their place in the community.

That treatment costs money, and every penny, or better still 2d, to be donated via the new football pool, will help to give Spastics a chance.

The promoters are now appointing "Spastics Pools" agents all over the country, and are confident that the pools investors will win some big prizes for Spastics this season—as well as for themselves.

The Amesbury Walking Aid...

This aid is designed to assist a child to walk when severely handicapped.

It is light in weight and folds flat when not in use

● The body support is adjustable for width and height and is intended to support the child round the waist

● The handlebars are adjustable through a wide range and can be supplied with fore-arm supports when a child is unable to grip in a normal manner.

● Over-head support (as illustrated) can be fitted to all models

● The castors can be locked to prevent the swivelling action giving sideways stability required in the early stages

● Skids are provided on the rear castors to prevent the "run away" feeling and gives the child confidence

● A saddle and centre board support can now be supplied for seissors-gait cases.



Regd. design No. 862029

THE
AMESBURY MANUFACTURING COMPANY, AMESBURY, WILTS.
Telephone: 2157



The football pools will help more Spastics to get treatment like this to help them learn to walk.

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

It is always encouraging to hear of plans for a new Group centre, and as you all know, the tempo in this direction is increasing, but there is a danger in this. The danger is in over-providing for certain needs, and going ahead with plans for a certain type of centre without knowing what the demand really is, or what Groups are doing in the same field.

I do wish Groups would get together a little more with each other and with the N.S.S. before going into "print" about their plans. The N.S.S. has, after all, lots of experience and 'know-how'.

Please **do** keep us at all times up-to-date with your plans, however far away from fruition they may be. We can **help now**.

SOUTH WEST MIDDLESEX

I had not visited this Group for a very long time, and I was pleased to receive an invitation to meet the committee the other week. Although not large, it is united, and most enthusiastic about the work being done at its fortnightly clinic. There has been much press interest in the work of the centre.

Like many more Groups, the parents tend to be apathetic, but I am told that those whose children attend the centre rarely miss a session. Several new members have been recruited to the committee recently, and S.W. Middlesex are determined to improve the facilities for Spastics in their vast and rather scattered area.

READING

After a long interval I again visited Reading, one of the original founder members of the N.S.S. Its A.G.M. proved a very interesting meeting.

Dr. Stevens, our new Director, who lives at Maidenhead, not far away, came along to meet the Group members, and to say a few words on his impression of the N.S.S. in his first three months. Questions were invited, and with a doctor present, naturally they came thick and fast. It turned out to be very stimulating indeed.

There was a real interest amongst the Group for information about other Group centres, and several people were a little incredulous that so much money can sometimes be raised by certain Groups for their centres.

Reported by George Lauder

Money raising is largely a matter of organisation, and it doesn't really matter where you live in Britain.

OLDHAM

Mr. Whyte and I had a good look at the house in Oldham which has been presented to the Group "lock, stock and barrel," by a mill owner. It has been described before in the News, so I won't say much here about it. It is just about as fine a gift as one could imagine. As it was a nursery, it is perfectly equipped.

After very minor alterations, the Oldham Group will be using it for this purpose but this time with Spastics, and not ordinary children, and of course it will serve as a meeting place for committees, too, as it is in Oldham itself.

A management committee for the centre is being formed, and a register of suitable children is being built up. Help from the local authorities is being sought especially so far as transport is concerned. We hope it will not be long before Oldham centre is in full swing.

SHEFFIELD

This Group has had many disappointments from time to time, but at last it looks as if they will have the centre they set their minds upon some years ago. It may not take the form as originally planned, but Mr. Whyte and I visited a large house on the outskirts of Sheffield recently, and we were told of the plans the Group has for this property. It may take a little time to get things settled, and all the alterations completed, but the committee is determined to press on with all speed.



SPASTICS HAPPY HOLIDAY

I have just paid my first visit to the Arundel Hotel, Westcliff-on-Sea, which is near Southend, Essex. This hotel is the East London Group's answer to the many holiday problems of Spastics and their families. Here, there is no worry, no embarrassment, a place where the difficulties of the Spastic are understood.

It is a delightful place, with a welcome "on the mat" from Miss Burdon, the Manageress,—Principal,—Matron—or whatever you like to call her. The rooms, the beds, the food, the situation, the view, and the kindness, leave nothing to be desired, and no one need have the slightest doubt of having a really happy and comfortable holiday.

295 MILES BY MOTOR CHAIR

There are still vacancies at the "Arundel", probably because some families have booked elsewhere earlier, or because many people, as yet, do not know of its existence, or because some may think its a long journey. Let me reassure you if you have any doubts whatsoever, or better still let Bobby Rutter do so.

Bobby, my Newcastle friend of whom most of you have heard me talk about, travelled all the way from Newcastle-on-Tyne in his "motor chair" (295 miles) to have a "fortnight". He stayed almost a month, so much did he enjoy it.

Acquaintances, and even A.A. and R.A.C. men can hardly believe he would drive his "three wheeler" all the way with only one overnight stop at

N.S.S. NEWS, JULY, 1957.

Stamford. He stayed the night with Mr. Nicholls, our Stamford secretary and his wife.

REALLY INDEPENDANT

Bobby has been to Margate and Sheerness on the boat, and by car to Canvey Island. He tells me that for the first time in his life he has felt really independent and free, and whilst there were still the curious glances in his direction, he didn't seem to mind. Bobby always could laugh at a joke against himself.

I am anxious that this splendid "Spastics Hotel" should always be full to capacity, and at 6 to 7 guineas a week for parents, and half price for Spastics, it is reasonable enough. Do remember one thing, however, there is only Miss Burdon, the cook, and the daily help, so Spastics must be accompanied by parents or friends. There is a "lift" for those who cannot manage the stairs.

You will find the address of this excellent hotel on the back cover of this issue.

Debating Society was held recently. The motion was, whether members of the press should be allowed to publish articles which made good stories, but were not 100 per cent correct. There was a lively discussion between those who believed that the papers should contain no exaggerations, distortions nor lies; and those who supported a free press under the control of the Press Council.

Report from Prested Hall

An Obituary

On June the 20th, the usual cheerful atmosphere of Prested Hall was changed into one of sorrow at the death of Mr. Cyril Norris, a member of the community. His sudden passing came as a great shock to the residents and staff.

Cyril Norris was a powerful personality who found happiness and contentment only when he was at work. Although handicapped in body, he laboured harder than many who have no disablement.

A man has died, who helped himself by working to help and assist other people.

16,000 Ticket Raffle

In glorious weather on the 2nd of June, the fête at Prested Hall was opened by Miss Sanders, a past mayor of Colchester. The sideshows were skilfully manned by members of local Round Tables, who put much energy and time into the work.

The climax of the afternoon was the draw of the great raffle in aid of the centre. 16,000 tickets were sold all over the country, and the first prize was a television set or £80, cash. It was won by Mrs. Lawrence of Coggeshall, Essex, who by good fortune was attending the fête.

Trip on the High Seas

The impressive sum of £640 was realised, excluding expenses, from the raffle and the fête itself. The latter proved so popular and successful that it is hoped to hold a better fête next year.

N.S.S. NEWS, JULY, 1957.

by
Bernard Brett
a Spastic Resident

was a new and exciting experience. The day was calm which meant that nobody's reputation was endangered.

The meeting of the Prested Hall

Distress at Inaccuracy

Several residents related how they and their families had been deeply distressed by inaccurate accounts of them in their local press. The motion was narrowly defeated by 12 votes to 10.

The June meeting of the Residents Committee took place on the 18th. Holiday arrangements were the main subject for discussion. But it was announced that the new Christmas card printing machine would be installed during August. Everyone felt that this would greatly increase the value of the work done at Prested Hall, and would give the residents a positive means of helping the N.S.S.

Warden's Descent

The meeting took place out of doors and was interrupted by an accident. During a speech, the Warden's chair leg entered a mousehole in the lawn, and he descended rather rapidly on to the grass!



A life on the ocean wave for some of Prested Hall's residents. The Romford Round Tablers organised a boat trip at Brightlingsea. All of them proved excellent sailors.

SCHOOLS AND CENTRES

Birtenshaw Hall Opens

Exactly four years and three weeks after the Bolton and District Group of the N.S.S. was born, its members sat and watched Professor Gaisford, M.D., M.Sc., F.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Professor of Child Health and Paediatrics, perform the symbolic opening of Birtenshaw Hall. A Special School for Spastics, it is a day and residential school approved by the Ministry of Education, and caters, at the moment, for 36 children.

Early in 1953 one or two parents discussed what could be done for their children, and finally decided to put a letter in the local paper inviting parents of Spastic children to a meeting. The room was crowded, for parents came in from the surrounding townships, and before the meeting dispersed a chairman, treasurer, and secretary, had been appointed.

Negotiations with the local authority, and the county authority were fruitless at that time, and after a public meeting, when Mr. George Lauder, J.P. spoke and films were shown, contact was made with the various organisations in the town to see what help could be expected in the provision of a school.

The experts were not optimistic when a proposal to make an appeal for £10,000 was suggested, but the committee decided to go ahead. An appeals committee, with representatives of all manner of associations, was formed, and the task was begun.

The proprietor of the local newspaper generously gave us 100,000 appeal leaflets which were distributed by the Boy Scouts of the town. A small army of helpers began the first door-to-door collection, while the film, "The

Chance of Their Lives" was hurried hither and thither, sometimes being

How It Began by Bolton's Secretary Arthur Catherall



Courtesy Bolton Evening News

The nursery at Birtenshaw Hall. Little Sharon, in the foreground, is using a machine made out of cotton reels for teaching numbers — an invention of one of the teachers.

shown twice in one evening at widely divergent places.

One or two large houses had already been seen, but turned down. Then on to the market came Birtenshaw Hall, a gentleman's residence standing in a spot which was convenient for rail and road transport, yet was in a healthy spot away from the industrial atmosphere of Bolton. The price was £7,000. With only £400 in the bank, but with unbounded optimism, an attempt was made to purchase. It was impossible to secure a mortgage, and the house was put up for auction. To add to the difficulties the Ministry's Valuer had set a top figure of £2,500 on building and

land. More than that figure must not be paid. The position seemed hopeless.

On the day of the sale a 'good fairy' appeared; the house was bought, and subsequently turned over to the Bolton Group. The £10,000 Appeal, which had been making rather slow progress, got some publicity when a picture of the newly-acquired house was published.

From then on, though the Group's worries were far from over, money began to flow in. Not the least contributors being the children, and a spate of back street concerts, kerb-side sales of comics and old toys, helped to chase some of the worry from the eyes of the treasurer. In one small town the children raised £800 in fourteen days.

N.S.S. £3,000 Grant

Money came in from a variety of sources, Sunday Schools, clubs, from football matches, concerts, prizes won by children in newspaper competitions, donations from old-age pensioners, and perhaps the most touching of all, a donation from a widower who had sold his late wife's wedding ring.

The N.S.S. boosted morale with a grant of £3,000, and our first share of Christmas Seals money, some £1,400, also helped. Silver paper and old woollens brought in a steady £4 per week.

Plans approved by the Ministry jumped up the cost, but the parents refused to be dismayed. Now the school is open, the cost was over £30,000. From the first meeting of the appeals committee to the formal opening ceremony was three years. Friends we have had in legion.

"Somebody said it couldn't be done
But he with a grin replied . . ."

Bollington Needs More Funds

It is suggested that a small committee should be formed with the object of raising money in each town or village that the Bollington Clinic serves. This was revealed in the Clinic's annual report, for running costs this year have been more than the income. The biggest expense, apart from the staff's salaries, is the ambulance which has covered 34,000 miles since it was purchased.

The report stresses the great benefit

N.S.S. NEWS, JULY, 1957.

in the treatment of the children from the bath provided by the efforts of the County Fire Brigade. The work of the medical officer, Dr. Jean Coope, was deeply appreciated, and also the staff.

Dr. Coope reported that since January several new and promising applicants had been accepted. 15 children are now attending full-time, and 4 who attend normal schools, come part-time for physiotherapy. About half the children are under 7, and are responding well to physiotherapy. Between treatment sessions they receive nursery-type education.

Would Develop Deformities

"The older children", Dr. Coope said, "are cared for in the schoolroom. Most of these have been classed as ineducable and would otherwise have been left at home where they would develop painful and crippling deform-

ities, and receive no education".

The children are receiving individual tuition, occupational therapy, and a weekly cooking lesson. One intelligent older child is learning to read, and receiving special training to equip her for a clerical job in a couple of years.

Authorities' Approval

Dr. Coope also reported that Dr. Gretton-Watson and Dr. Butters, as representatives of the Cheshire Medical Officer of Health, and Dr. Wilson from the Ministry of Education, had visited the clinic recently.

Approval of the excellent treatment and premises was expressed, and it was suggested that the most fruitful line for future developments would be in co-operation with the neighbouring N.S.S. clinic at Stockport, to prevent overlapping and to ensure fullest use of the facilities of these two centres.

Duchess of Bedford at Luton Centre

When the Duchess of Bedford officially opened Luton's Spastics centre, Dr. Charles Hill was among the visitors. The Luton centre has been in operation for some time, although it had not been officially opened. Many tributes were paid to the Group members who had brought the centre into being, particular mention was given to the zeal of the chairman, Mr. Alan Monks.

The Duchess said that the object of the Group must make a direct appeal to everyone, for the sight of any suffering children affected all. She said, "Sympathy and individual kindness is one of the things that really matter in this life, but the world has progressed and one of the ways in which we see this, is that the individual desire to help can be utilised in a wider sphere than before".

In conclusion, the Duchess said, "The courage of these little children is so wonderful, and the kindness of the people who look after them is indeed wonderful to watch". To 4-year old Spastic, Elvira Williams, came the honour of presenting a bouquet.

Dr. Hill presided at the ceremony, and also appealed for financial support. He pointed out that collecting boxes were available, and at the end of the afternoon these had yielded £28.

In addition to catering for many of N.S.S. NEWS, JULY, 1957.

Luton's Spastics, the Hemel Hempstead and District Group has arranged for three children from its area to attend the centre.

Chairman's Generous Gift to Delarue School

As it is hoped that the number of pupils at the Thomas Delarue School can be increased from 40 to 60, additions, and improvements for their accommodation are needed. There will have to be a new dining room, enlargements to kitchen, additional bathrooms, etc. Also the central heating and domestic hot water systems will have to be extended.

It is estimated that the total cost will be over £10,000. Mr. Douglas Delarue, Chairman of the school's Board of Governors, who presented the school building to the N.S.S., is donating the cost of the dining room. He has also guaranteed the cost of other alterations.

The Thomas Delarue School is named in memory of Mr. Delarue's father, and the Society is sincerely grateful for his warm generosity, and obviously deep understanding and sympathy with the work it is doing.



(Photo: Courtesy Luton News)

The Duchess of Bedford with little Elvira Williams who had presented a bouquet to her at Luton's opening. Nurse Cullen is also in the picture.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CARE AND TREATMENT OF SPASTICS

It is not surprising that in an area with such a large population as that of Lancashire every degree of severity is found amongst the children and adults suffering from cerebral palsy. They range from the mildest degrees, where no special treatment or education is needed, to those whose disability is so serious that if they are children they have to be educated in special residential schools. Facilities have to be, therefore, of the widest scope.

EDUCABLE CHILDREN ORDINARY SCHOOLS

It is best for children suffering from cerebral palsy to attend ordinary schools if they can. Many do in Lancashire, and if they also require treatment, this is provided by the County Council, through the school health service.

Many, for example, attend the Council's Orthopaedic Clinics for Physiotherapy or surgical care, of which there are 29, or receive special training in speech at one of the numerous centres in the County. Some, on the other hand, attend hospital for their treatment.

SPECIAL DAY SCHOOLS

The County has six day open air schools. These are primarily for

delicate children but it is sometimes appropriate to admit a child with cerebral palsy.

Sixteen of these children attend such schools. A similar number attend other day special schools near their homes, and not under the County Council.

RESIDENTIAL SPECIAL SCHOOLS

The Lancashire County Council have set up three residential schools for physically handicapped children, Bleasdale House, Silverdale, for junior

by Dr. S. C. Gawne
County Medical Officer
of Health
Lancashire County Council

boys, Singleton Hall, Poulton-le-Fylde for senior boys, and Kepplewray, Broughton-in-Furness for girls. In each school by far the largest group consists of children with cerebral palsy—often in a very severe form. In all, at the present time, there are 52 of these children at the County's three residential schools.



Kepplewray School at Broughton-in-Furness.

Arrangements have been made for a further 18 children to attend residential schools administered by other bodies or Authorities.

One reason why residential schools of this kind are necessary in Lancashire is that the area is so large and the population so dispersed. These schools also provide the best opportunity for continuous care and treatment, with the help, when necessary, of physiotherapist, orthopaedic surgeon, speech therapist or psychologist, all working as a team under one roof.

HOME EDUCATION

There are always a few children who, while waiting for a place in a school or for other reasons, require, for a time, to be educated in their own homes. There are usually about 15



At Kepplewray. Girls at work in one of the classrooms. Each desk is specially adapted for the individual's handicap.

children with cerebral palsy receiving education in this way.

Further points to be noted are:—

Children with cerebral palsy are admitted to the County Council's residential schools however severe the physical disability.

Children in these schools are kept in close touch with their parents. They go home for holidays three times a year, and the parents visit the schools monthly.

Access to these schools means that there are valuable opportunities for a trial period, so necessary for those children whose educability is doubtful. A decision is especially difficult in the case of some children with cerebral palsy and full use is made of the facilities in the schools.

Great stress is laid on early ascertainment. This is greatly helped in that the school nurse is also the health visitor.

FURTHER TRAINING

At the present time, through arrangements made by the Lancashire Education Committee, seven adolescents with cerebral palsy are receiving special training for their careers at one of the three training colleges.

INEDUCABLE CHILDREN

Provision must also be made for the full development of children with cerebral palsy who are ineducable, as for those who are educable. This can best be done by admitting them to day occupational training centres.

Fifteen of these centres have been set up by the County Council, eleven of them in the last few years, and in the near future there will be 22. A considerable number of Spastic children attend at present, some of them with severe physical debility, and as further occupation centres are set up it will be possible to admit more and more of these children.

ADULTS

Adults suffering from cerebral palsy are assisted through the County Council's Scheme, under the National Assistance Act, 1945, for the welfare of handicapped persons. This provides a complete range of social services in which they can take part.

These services include the provision of residential accommodation where it is obtainable in specialist homes, and at present three such cases are maintained in Homes provided by the National Spastics Society, and four in

other voluntary Homes. Domiciliary occupational therapy, holidays, adaptations at home, and handicraft centres, are made available under the scheme.

Grants are made by the County Council to local branches of the Inskip League of Friendship, and a number of adults with cerebral palsy attend the social centres provided by that organisation, transport being covered by the County Council in many cases.

There are known to be at least 170 adults living at home. There are of course many others, with minor degrees of cerebral palsy, whose names have not been brought to the notice of the Local Authority, since they have adapted themselves satisfactorily to their condition and are able to obtain

and retain employment suitable to their handicap.

Those on the County Council's register are given every help to overcome their handicap as far as possible, and in all cases the Council's officers endeavour to co-ordinate their activities with the medical practitioner, the hospital services and, where necessary, the Ministry of Labour and National Service, or the Appliance Centre of the Ministry of Health.

THE AIM must always be to provide whatever facilities may be necessary so that all children and adults suffering from cerebral palsy, whether they are educable or not, are given the best opportunities to achieve their fullest development.



Boys at Bleasdale House. An art class is in progress.

Success of Clinic at S.W. Middx.

At the South West Middlesex annual general meeting, chairman, Mr. L. Earl, spoke of a reluctance by many parents to take advantage of the services provided by the Group. He said that this was probably due to a lack of knowledge by many people of the work being done and that a publicity drive would be put in hand.

Reviewing the past year, Mr. Earl said that it had been successful. New members had joined, and apart from assistance given to individual Spastics, the clinic at Feltham had exceeded all

expectations. Although it had been opened as an experiment, and it had been expected that it would take a year or two to develop, the centre had, in fact, become firmly established within six months of opening. A group of children were receiving regular treatment.

Mr. Earl said that most of the credit for the success of the project was undoubtedly due to the energy and enthusiasm of the treasurer, Mr. W. Fitzgerald. In giving his report, Mr. Fitzgerald pointed out that finances had improved despite heavy outlay.

EMPLOYMENT

The John Groom Crippleage

The Homes and Workrooms in Edgware, which are part of the John Groom Crippleage and provide work and accommodation for about 150 disabled girls and women, including Spastics, literally started with mugs of cocoa, and slices of bread. This work was begun in 1866 by John Groom, who was then barely 21.

In this Dickensian era the young man found many unwanted children, neglected and disabled, as well as handicapped young women who were exploited in their attempts to earn a living selling flowers. Often with no permanent dwelling, inadequately clothed and fed, their lives were never-ending struggles for survival.

MEALS PROVIDED

Groom began by providing meals, and later finding material so that artificial flowers could be made and sold in the "off" period. He found a house in Sekforde Street, in Clerkenwell, in which they could live and work, going out to sell their flowers in the streets. Occasionally the girls would arrange exhibitions demonstrating their skill and these caused much interest.

The scope of Groom's work was ever increasing, and as the property came on the market, he purchased more houses until nearly all of Sekforde Street sheltered the helpless people in his care. To-day John Groom Homes and Hostels are in Middlesex, Kent, and Essex, although the offices of John Groom Crippleage, Inc. are still in Sekforde Street.

COMMUNITY BUILT

The Crippleage includes homes for disabled and delicate children in Essex, orphan children under five, near Sevenoaks, Kent, for girls between five and fifteen in Westerham, Kent, a hostel for girls starting in employment in Edgware, the Homes and Workrooms in Edgware, and a small retirement home for its elderly workers.

The flower-making industry for disabled girls, moved to Edgware, in Middlesex, in 1932, where a complete community of houses was built in eleven acres of beautiful grounds. In addition to the houses where the girls

live, there is the office block, the big workroom, the kitchen block, the recreation hall, the quiet room block, and a small self-contained hospital block. Two gardeners cope with the lovely flower gardens, and gardens which supply most of the vegetables and some of the fruit.

There are eight houses which are mostly semi-detached, in which the girls and women live, and with the exception of breakfast, the work-day meals are all cooked at the central kitchen and are transported by a motorised trolley. Formerly, there was accommodation for 25 girls in each



Some of the girls relax in the Quiet Room. This is a separate building in the centre of the grounds of the Homes and Workshops.

house, but adaptations which will give each more room will decrease this number to 15. A housemother, with an assistant, is in charge. They prepare breakfast each morning, and cook meals over the week-end in addition to giving the girls the help they need.

All the residents must be able to walk as the bedrooms are on the first floor. Beside her bed, each girl has a headphone set connected with the radio on the ground floor. The spacious dining rooms are also used as common rooms, and there is a central building which is a quiet room for residents from all the houses. The library is here and writing desks. A small room in this block is used when representatives from the local lending library call, and when the girls wish to talk private-

THE DISABLED AT WORK—7

ly to their visitors. There is a television set in one house, with ample accommodation for all keen viewers.

The recreation hall is used for concerts, and plays, which the girls often put on themselves. There is a much-used public telephone in the lobby. Although there is a 10.30 curfew, the girls can get late-night passes from their housemothers.

THREE MONTH PROBATION

Girls are normally admitted between the years of 16 and 25. They are recommended from various sources,

and several questionnaires concerning their disabilities and aptitudes are returned before an interview is arranged with the Principal and the Home's consulting doctor. The new girls are taken on a probationary period of three months, which may be extended in individual cases.

The long workshop is two-storied, and although there is a lift most girls prefer to tackle the stairs to which an

extra handrail has been added. The beautiful flowers produced so skilfully are of the highest standard. They are marketed to big shops in London's West End, and many of the gay little flowers for charities' official collecting days are made at the John Groom Crippleage, including the Alexandra Day roses.

LIKE CHELSEA SHOW

A visit to the workshop is like walking into Chelsea Flower Show. The flowers are exquisitely reproduced, down to the fine veins of colour on the petals. Each leaf, each stem, each stamen, a perfect replica. Materials used are cottons treated in various ways, velvets, and silks, the material being of the highest quality.

The number of processes vary for the different flowers. Some need only three or four processes, whereas some would run a gamut of about 10. In some cases the flower can be cut as a whole, but many are built up petal by petal, each petal being separately dyed, striped or spotted (tiger-lillies for instance), as required.

Most of the dyeing is done on the premises by a team who have acquired much knowledge about chemicals. Sometimes they work from a dye pat-

tern book but quite often a flower will be plucked from the garden and the dyes matched to that.

Although some of the cutting and stamping machines have been slightly adapted, in the main ordinary equipment is used. Adaptations to machinery or the special individual "gear" that some of the girls use, have been made by the Homes' maintenance man.

The Manageress is non-handicapped, but several of her assistants are disabled women. The girls work a forty

hour week, and do piecework. They are paid accordingly, but each girl, regardless of output, receives a minimum of 7s. 9d. a week pocket money in addition to covering her board and lodging, and National Insurance; many, of course, receive much more.

NOT STATE-AIDED

There is a fortnightly holiday in the summer, when the Homes close and many girls stay with relatives or friends. When this is not possible, the housemothers arrange holidays for them. There is also a week's break at Christmas time.

Some of the girls marry and leave the Homes, and older workers can retire to the home about a mile away.

The workshop is not State-aided in any way, and taking into consideration that the beautiful flowers produced are on the luxury list and therefore carry a 60 per cent purchase tax, it is quite amazing that the workshop pays its way in open competition. It is surely the very high quality of the work produced that accounts for this.

EXQUISITE PRODUCTS

This home, probably one of the longest established in the country, is providing in an atmosphere of cheerful industry, work and accommodation for disabled girls, who must find great satisfaction in the fine craftsmanship of their exquisite products.



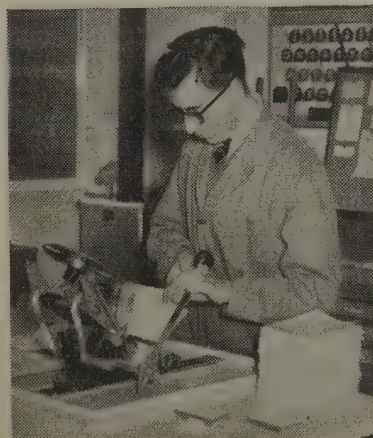
The long workroom where the flowers are dyed, cut, and assembled. As each girl completes a flower, she adds it to the bouquet in the middle of the table.

21 year-old Spastic Learns to Spell — Sorting Type

Robert Stephens, one of the trainees at Sherrards, has reversed a usual process. He has learned to spell sorting type—usually this happens the other way about. Robert is 21, and has spent 16 years in hospital. When he arrived at Sherrards he could hardly read or write because he had never been to school.

Remarkable Aptitude

During the first few weeks he learned to spell while sorting type, and when introduced to a new printing machine Robert showed remarkable aptitude and keenness. Now he fulfils all the orders given Sherrards for labels, visiting cards, programmes and menus.



Courtesy Printing News
Robert at work with some of the printing equipment at Sherrards.

In a month or so he will leave Sherrards to make a living with small printing jobs. For Robert, as for the 25 other trainees, Sherrards is the gateway to a new life.

Brighton's Invitations

Among other jobs, Sherrards has recently been responsible for printing all the invitations for the official opening of the Brighton and Hove centre. Vera Lynn will perform the opening ceremony.

While Robert concentrates on printing, others learn engineering or woodwork. Without the use of any special tools they all work a full 8 hour day on standard machines. The aim is to duplicate, as near as possible, conditions in outside employment.

Robert spoke for all when he said: "This is the only chance I will ever get. All I want is to work for my keep and feel that I am some use in the world".

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

THE LIGHTER SIDE

There's been a bit of bother about badges recently. Not more than a puff to ruffle the surface. But just enough to show the Committee which way the wind was blowing. Now that it is all over, the Committee can sit back and smile a smile of self-satisfaction.

For the "incident" has proved that some of the Society's centres have already developed strong personalities of their own. Their management committees are no longer agglomerations of local persons. They have become proudly conscious of their own achievements as homogeneous bodies.

They have developed a unity and an individuality, and this has revealed itself in a pardonable desire to blazon their entity on blazers, and on similarly appropriate articles of clothing. Simply that! And it is simply that that has caused the minor upheaval. For the Committee were suddenly presented with the accomplished fact—or the nearly-accomplished fact — of these badges. They were to be used, of course, for the residents at the management committees' respective schools.

Not that the Society is going in for compulsory school uniforms, with all that is implied by that. But these management committees had evidently felt that a school badge would be a useful thing, as well as a decorative one. Moreover, the wearing of a badge

would satisfy that very common wish in the human breast to be different and distinctive, on the one hand, and to be a respected member of a unified society, on the other.

But it was obvious that the committees had had a much more fundamental reason for thinking about badges than that simple explanation.

by Eric Hodgson

They were consciously or subconsciously giving expression to their justifiable pride in having been personally, and collectively, responsible for creating order and organisation out of the rather unusual material that had—as it were—been thrust upon them.

There it was at last. A school of individuality, and the foundations of a tradition already laid. A community with all the necessary differences of opinion and viewpoints, but with a single core of idealism and purpose. Let them be proud; and let them have a badge; their very own token.

The "clash" came when the Projects Committee decided that it, too, had as good a reason to feel this very same pride as the management committees, and they were going to share in the glory. As usual, from the friendly determination of everybody to have their own way, there emerged, some-

how, the usual, simple and satisfactory compromise.

The schools could have their badges, of course, but there would have to be embodied in the design some clear indication that the National Spastics Society itself was deeply involved too. Honour—we think—was satisfied all round, and everyone breathed quietly once more.

A MATTER OF INTEREST

It is to be presumed that those who read this N.S.S. News are interested not only in Spastics themselves but in the detailed operation of the Society. The N.S.S. News is the chief vehicle carrying information about the country. A few years ago there was a lot to say—and to write—about ideals, and comparatively little to say—and to write—about actions, on the scale that we know to-day.

When the National Organiser began to travel around the country, he found that the spirit of urgency was rampant everywhere. Groups were being formed, and gradually national and local funds were being turned into buildings peopled by cheerful and determined Spastics, and their helpers.

CHANGES

So the National Organiser was given his page or two in the News, which began to change from a record of simple aspirations, and minor action, to a thrilling and continuing story of solid achievement. The officers for the North and the South East Regions have now been given space, and the change in character has been accelerated. The story is being told in greater detail of all that the Groups, with their modest enthusiasts, are doing for Spastics from Kent to Cumberland.

It is men like these, and the present and future heads of the Society's schools and centres, who must eventually write the records of greatest value in the history of the Society. These are the things that everyone wants to know, for deeds speak so much louder than words.

The News will continue to supply that kind of material in increasing quantities as the months go by, and as the Society's overall plans mature. So it is that a decision will soon have to be made as to whether this rather more theoretical feature of "Committee Comment" should cease to appear in order to make room for still more matters of greater moment.

IF YOU DO NOT ALREADY RECEIVE THE N.S.S. NEWS EACH MONTH AND WISH TO DO SO, PLEASE COMPLETE AND FORWARD THIS FORM TO N.S.S. HEADQUARTERS.

N.S.S. News SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To:—

*The General Secretary,
National Spastics Society,
28, Fitzroy Square,
London, W.1.*

I wish to receive the N.S.S. News monthly for the rest of this year*. I enclose..... shillings for..... copies at 8d. each (including postage).

(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

NAME (Mr., Mrs., Miss)

ADDRESS

* NOTE: The annual subscription falls due in January.

The Feminine Touch

MOTHER TO MOTHER

by MARY WILLIAM

I recently renewed my acquaintance with Croydon's Clinic and nursery school at Bramley Hill. This centre has been established longer than most, and each year brings fresh proof of the vital work being accomplished. I took with me a friend for whom visiting a centre was a new and exciting experience. Here is what she thought about it.

"Bramley Hill Day Centre is a joyful place full of hope and encouragement. I was aware of this immediately the door opened and the smiling Matron greeted me. I was an unexpected visitor, calling at an inconvenient time—lunch time. She said they were a bit short staffed, but 'take us as you find us.' I did, and spent a most enjoyable afternoon.

"This was my first visit to a centre for Spastic children, and I was most impressed to see how well-disciplined the children were at meals, the staff encouraging them with firm kindness to eat correctly. How well the children responded, and my! how rapidly the food disappeared.

"With lunch over, and the younger children bedded down for their afternoon nap, I slipped upstairs to watch the speech therapist at work. When I heard Graham, aged 8, mastering difficult consonants, I found it hard to believe that five years ago he could not open his tightly clenched jaws; that he could only crawl on the floor then, but now loved a game of cricket with his father and big brother. True they ran for him, but he did knock up the sixes and boundaries.

"Graham confided to me that he had just had his birthday, and with the money presents he was going to buy a cricket bat. Soon he will be able to leave Bramley Hill, and continue his education at a physically handicapped school; later, he may even go to an ordinary school.

"Then I went to the physiotherapy department. A little girl was being taught how to relax her rigid limbs; in another corner, John, aged 9, who has never been able to sit up, was receiving remedial exercises. I was again conscious of the quiet confidence and

cheerfulness of the therapists as they applied their skill.

"The afternoon was warm, and I joined the children on the lawns and played with them. Some made castles in the sandpit, others looked at books.

"One little girl was the centre of attraction. I noticed Graham, who I had met earlier, was reading aloud to her. As he did so, her little hands groped around the contours of his face in friendly investigation. As I watched, I realised she was blind.

"Gail is only five. A lovely child; with beautifully formed limbs, despite

words as well. Although she cannot see, riding her tricycle round the park is her greatest joy.

"Going-home time is around 4 o'clock, when the ambulance calls to collect the children. This is provided by the local authorities. I saw the first happy load aboard, who were being taken to outlying districts. After waving goodbye, I went and had a word with some of the mothers who had arrived to collect their children. The story from most had a common theme—the wonderful improvement in their children since attending Bramley Hill.

"The centre welcomes mothers—who give help with the children during the day, and are instructed in the correct exercises to give at home. Matron



The children who attend Bramley Hill centre play happily on the lawn with their mothers.

her disability. Her earliest days were spent in an oxygen tent. The technique at that time was insufficiently developed, and it was not realised that undiluted oxygen caused blindness to premature babies.

"Gail has attended Bramley Hill since the beginning of May. She could not talk then, but now she is learning the alphabet, and can say one or two

is emphatic about the importance of this, and finds that most mothers co-operate.

"This is certainly a happy place. I told Matron, how I felt, and agreeing, she said, "If we could only get the children at a very early age, I feel we could do much more for them. To get them young, is all we ask." I hope her wish is granted."

LIST OF SECRETARIES

This list has been compiled from information forwarded by Groups to N.S.S. Headquarters.

This list is compiled with the counties in alphabetical order. To find your Group, look under the initial of your county.

B

Bedford & Dist. Branch of N.S.S.

Miss A. E. Kidder,
Flat 5,
77, Bromham Rd., Bedford.

Luton & Dist. Spastics Group

Miss J. Leggett,
36, Swifts Green Road,
Luton, Beds.

Reading & Dist. Spastics Welfare Society

Miss Cherry Fountain,
57, Church Road,
Earley,
Reading, Berks.

Wycombe & Dist. Spastics Society

Mrs. J. J. Smith,
60, Holtspur Avenue,
Wooburn Green, Bucks.

Slough & Dist. Spastics Welfare Society

Ronald J. Webber Esq.,
62, Aldin Avenue,
Slough, Bucks.

C

Jersey Branch of N.S.S.

Dennis G. Picot Esq.,
The Links,
Maufant,
St. Saviour, Jersey, C.I.

Birkenhead Spastics Children's Society

F. H. Campbell Esq.,
2, Ashburton Avenue,
Oxton, Birkenhead, Ches.

Bollington, Macclesfield & Dist. Clinic for Spastic Children

Mrs. H. J. Thurlow,
Meadow Cottage,
Kerridge, Nr. Macclesfield.

Chester & Dist. Spastics Association

E. Hubball Esq.,
14, Burnham Road,
Lache, Chester, Ches.

Crewe & Dist. Spastics Society

Mrs. E. Dixon,
34, Jones Street,
Crewe, Cheshire.

Sale, Altrincham & Dist. Group

Mrs. P. Carlisle,
122, Walton Road,
Sale, Cheshire.

Stockport & Dist. Spastic Society

Mrs. M. Pearce,
Granville House,
20, Parsonage Road,
Heaton Moor, Stockport,
Cheshire.

Wallasey Spastics Association

Mrs. D. Abbott,
3, Bayswater Road,
Wallasey, Cheshire.

Cumberland, Westmorland & Furness Spastics Society

J. S. Nichol Esq.,
50, Scotland Road,
Stanwix, Carlisle, Cumb.

D

Colwyn Bay Branch

Miss R. M. Osborne,
Coed Emrys Hotel,
Coed Pella Road,
Colwyn Bay, Denb.

Chesterfield & Dist. Branch of N.S.S.

L. Millward Esq.,
Scarsdale Hospital,
Chesterfield, Derby.

Derby & Dist. Branch of N.S.S.

F. P. Cato Esq.,
8, Rykneld Way,
Littleover, Derby.

Dame Hannah Rogers School Parents Association, Devon.

C. A. Bennett Esq.,
Pendennis,
27, Glebe Avenue,
Saltash, Cornwall.

Plymouth Spastic (C.P.) Association

K. C. Wyatt Esq.,
38, Vanguard Terrace,
Keyham, Plymouth, Devon.

Darlington & Dist. Spastics Society

J. G. Singer Esq.,
106, Coniscliffe Road,
Darlington, Co. Durham.

E

Epping Forest & Dist. Branch

Mrs. V. Ross,
21, Ormonde Rise,
Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

Essex Group

Mrs. S. Plewis,
Thickets,
Orchard Avenue, Halstead,
Essex.

Harlow & Dist. Branch

Mrs. M. Armstrong,
45, St. John's Avenue,
Harlow, Essex.

Southend-on-Sea & Dist. Spastics Society

Mrs. H. Evans,
201, Prince Avenue,
Southend-on-Sea,
Essex.

Colchester & Dist. Group

W. L. Harrison Esq.,
53, Victoria Road,
Colchester, Essex.

Ilford & Dist. Branch of N.S.S.

Mrs. C. McCaul,
269, Mortlake Road,
Ilford, Essex.

G

Cardiff & Dist. Spastics Association

S. P. Northam Esq.,
45, St. Ambrose Road,
Cardiff, Glam.

Merthyr Tydfil & Dist. Spastics Society

W. K. Jones Esq.,
12, Tynycoed Terrace,
Penydarren, Merthyr Tydfil,
Glam.

Pontypridd & Dist.

E. G. Mort Esq., B.A.,
Cartref,
Church Village,
Pontypridd Glam.

Swansea & Dist. Spastic Association

W. J. H. Paton Esq.,
Dros-y-Mor,
131, Dunvant Road,
Killay, Swansea.

Bristol Spastics Association

Mrs. G. Spilsbury,
c/o Bristol Spastics Assoc.,
Stratton Street, Bristol 2.

Cheltenham Spastic Aid Association

Mrs. P. L. Pickering,
Steep Holme,
Stanley Road,
Battledown, Cheltenham,
Glos.

H

Bournemouth & Dist. Group

J. H. Edwards Esq.,
43, Paddington Grove,
West Howe, Bournemouth.

North Hants & West Surrey Group

D. White Esq.,
8, Osborne Road,
Farnborough, Hants.

Portsmouth & Dist. Spastic Society

E. Keeping Esq.,
47, Mayo Street,
Buckland, Portsmouth.

Southampton & Dist. Parents Spastic Association

F. G. Evans Esq.,
15, Carisbrooke Drive,
Bitterne, Southampton,
Hants.

Bishop's Stortford Group

Mrs. D. Allen,
1, Westfield Road,
Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

Hertfordshire Spastics Society East Herts Group

Miss E. M. Mardling,
27, Pearson Avenue,
Hertford.

Hertfordshire Spastics Society Hatfield Group

Mrs. J. Bridge,
17, Meadow Croft,
Hatfield, Herts.

Hitchin & Dist. Friends of Spastics

Hugh D. Bidwell Esq.,
7, William Way,
Letchworth, Herts.

Hertfordshire Spastics Society St. Albans & Dist. Group

H. P. Chilver Esq.,
4, Hillside Road,
Harpenden, Herts.

OF N.S.S. GROUPS

Hertfordshire Spastics Society Hemel Hempstead Group

Mrs. Wilma Lawton,
Alston, Alston Road,
Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead.

Hertfordshire Spastics Society Welwyn Garden City & Dist. Group

Mrs. M. Lacon,
27, Coneydale,
Welwyn Garden City, Herts.

Hertfordshire Spastics Society Watford & District Group

L. V. Holland Esq.,
153, Links Way,
Croxley Green,
Rickmansworth, Herts.

Hertfordshire Spastics Society

Mr. R. C. Lemarie,
Woodlands,
1, Melbourne Road,
Bushey, Herts.

I

Isle of Wight

Mrs. J. M. Stanger,
The Lodge,
Longford Hospital,
Havenstreet, Nr. Ryde,
Lo.W.

K

Bromley & District Spastics Group

R. R. Duncan Gibson Esq.,
A.A.C.C.A.,
95, Crown Lane,
Bromley Common, Kent.

North West Kent Spastic Group

A. E. Strong Esq.,
28, Coote Road,
Bexleyheath, Kent.

Maidstone Area Spastics Group

Mrs. R. Earl,
7, Knowle Road,
Maidstone, Kent.

Ashford Group

Miss F. Hughes-Hallett,
41, North Street,
Ashford.

Folkestone & Dist. Branch of the N.S.S.

Alex F. Thomson Esq.,
21, Cherry Court,
Folkestone, Kent.

Medway Towns Branch of the N.S.S.

W. J. Laurie Esq.,
140, Rock Avenue,
Gillingham, Kent.

Tunbridge Wells Area Group

Mrs. A. Champneys,
New Timbers,
Bayham Road,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

L

Blackburn & Dist. Group

Mrs. E. Arundal,
320, Pringle Street,
Blackburn.

Blackpool & Fylde Spastic Group

E. Herring Esq.,
13-17, Burlington Road,
Blackpool, Lancs.

Bolton & Dist. Group

Arthur Catherall Esq.,
26, Florence Avenue,
Astley Bridge,
Bolton, Lancs.

Crosby & Dist. Spastics Society

Miss D. Lawton,
32, York Avenue,
Gt. Crosby, Liverpool. 23.

Liverpool Spastics Fellowship

Miss A. Angers,
Room 28,
66, Hanover Street,
Liverpool. 1.

Manchester & Dist Group

A. Shaughnessy Esq.,
2, Cordova Avenue,
Denton, Lancs.

Oldham & Dist. Spastics Society

J. H. Higgins Esq.,
91, Stanley Road,
Hollinwood, Lancs.

Preston & Dist. Group

Mrs. F. Coward,
345, Watling St. Road,
Fulwood,
Preston, Lancs.

Rossendale Spastics Group

E. Whittaker Esq.,
17, Pine Street,
Bacup, Lancs.

Urmston & Dist. Group

R. E. Salthouse Esq.,
3, Rathen Road,
Dayhulme, Urmston,
Manchester.

Warrington & Dist. Group for the Welfare of Spastics

Miss E. Taylor,
6, Scott Street,
Warrington, Lancs.

Widnes Spastic Fellowship Group

Mrs. R. Doyle
6 Carlton Street,
Widnes, Lancs.

Leicester & Leicestershire Spastics Society

Miss T. A. Bradbury,
Narrow Lane,
Aylestone,
Leicester.

Grimsby, Cleethorpes & Dist. Spastics Society

F. R. Sturman Esq.,
78, Lime Street,
Grimsby, Lincs.

Scunthorpe & Dist. Spastic Society

T. P. S. Baxter Esq.,
Auchard,
Devonshire Road,
Old Brumby, Scunthorpe,
Lincs.

Stamford Branch of the N.S.S.

A. J. Nicholls Esq.,
3, St. John's Terrace,
Stamford, Lincs.

LONDON

East London Group

G. B. Adams Esq.,
17, Sherwood Gardens,
Barking, Essex.

North London Area Association of Parents and Friends of Spastics

A. F. Dear Esq.,
15, Shirley Street,
Barnsbury, London, N.1.

North West London Group

Mrs. E. Costello,
1, Biddulph Mansions,
Elgin Avenue,
Maida Vale, W.9.

South London Group

Miss M. R. Jex,
40, Barry Road,
E. Dulwich, S.E.22

South East London Group

A. F. Hooker Esq.,
12, Broadfield Road,
Catford, S.E.6.

South West London & Dist. Group

G. G. Youell Esq.,
6, Ceasars Walk,
Mitcham, Surrey.

M

South West Middlesex Group

Miss M. Brandrick,
15, Emcroft Way,
Twickenham, Middx.

Central Middlesex Spastics Welfare Society

G. T. Cantley Esq.,
17, Evelyn Avenue,
Ruislip, Middx.

N

Norfolk & Norwich Spastic Association

Mrs. J. Barnes,
Wellesley,
Carleton Rode,
Nr. Norwich.

Corby & Dist. Branch of N.S.S.

B. Whitlam Esq.,
3, Welland Vale Road,
Corby, Northants.

Northampton & County Branch of N.S.S.

P. M. Farrell Esq.,
82, Kingsley Park Terrace,
Northampton.

Peterborough & Dist. Group

Mrs. M. K. Parkes,
54A, Priory Road,
Peterborough, Northants.

Mansfield & District Friends of Spastics Group

J. A. Hind, Esq.,
Sherwood Drive,
New Ollerton,
Mansfield, Notts.

Nottingham District Cripples Guild Friends of Spastics' Group

Mrs. H. E. Wolff,
169, Eltham Road,
West Bridgford,
Nottingham.

O

Oxfordshire Spastics Welfare Society

Mrs. Marjorie Edwards,
363, Cowley Road,
Oxford.

S

Ludlow Group

Miss E. A. Whysall,
61, Old Street,
Ludlow, Shropshire.

Shrewsbury & Dist. Spastics Group

Mrs. J. M. Brown,
5, Hill Crescent,
Longden Road,
Shrewsbury.

Bridgwater & Dist. Friends of Spastics Association

Mrs. M. Bowerman,
22, Dunkery Road,
Bridgwater, Somerset.

North Staffordshire Spastic Association

R. Bradbury Esq.,
276, Weston Road,
Meir, Stoke-on-Trent.

Ipswich Branch of the N.S.S.

G. C. Walker Esq.,
127, Clapgate Lane,
Ipswich, Suffolk.

Central Surrey Group

Miss B. Kauffman,
24, Stoneleigh Park Road,
Ewell, Surrey.

Croydon & Dist. Branch

J. G. Holdham Esq.,
48, Kidderminster Road,
West Croydon, Surrey.

South West Surrey Group

Mrs. G. Robbins,
Croft Point,
Links Road,
Bramley, Surrey.

Kingston & Dist. Group

Mrs. B. E. Blake,
51, Avenue Road,
Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.

St. Margarets Parents Association

H. J. Hancock Esq.,
42, Blannedown,
Denmark Hill, S.E.5.

North West Surrey Group

Mrs. C. Walker,
29, Walton Park,
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.

S.E. Surrey Spastics Group (Redhill)

Mrs. E. D. Browne,
2, Balcombe Road,
Horley, Surrey.

Brighton Hove & Dist. Branch

Mrs. M. D. Brimelow,
18, Mill Drive,
Hove, Sussex.

Chichester Branch N.S.S.

R. D. Fleet Esq.,
44, Stein Road,
Southbourne, Emsworth,
Hants.

East Sussex & Dist. Group

Mrs. L. Sanderson,
3, Hillesden Mansions,
Chapel Park Road,
St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

W

Swindon & Dist. Spastics Parents Group

P. Barkham Esq.,
73, Oxford Road,
Stratton, St. Margarets,
Swindon.

Worcester & Dist. Branch of N.S.S.

Mrs. F. R. Cameron,
Devon Lodge,
6, Homefield Road, Worcs.

Y

Barnsley & Dist. Association of the N.S.S.

G. H. Walton Esq.,
8, Burton Road,
Barnsley, Yorks.

Bradford & Dist. Branch of N.S.S.

Miss P. Wilkinson,
4, St. Matthew's Road,
Bankfoot, Bradford 5.

Castleford Spastics Group

Mrs. S. A. Jourdain,
The Square,
Airedale, Castleford,
Yorks.

Dewsbury & Dist. Spastics Society

B. C. Robinson Esq.,
9, Trenton Road,
Hanging Heaton, Batley,
Yorks.

Goole Branch of N.S.S.

H. Acaster Esq.,
4, Elsie Street,
Goole, Yorks.

Halifax & Dist. Spastic Group

Mrs. D. Clegg,
523, Moor End Road,
Mount Tabor,
Halifax, Yorks.

Hull Group. The friends of the Spastics' Society in Hull & District

E. Hebblethwaite Esq.,
13, Maple Avenue,
Willerby, Nr. Hull,
E. Yorks.

Leeds & Dist. Spastics Society

S. J. Minson Esq.,
31, Church Wood Avenue,
Leeds 16.

Pontefract & Dist. Spastics Association

Mrs. J. O. Branch,
The Vicarage,
Ferrybridge,
Knottingley, Yorks.

Sheffield & Dist. Spastics Society

W. Daniels Esq.,
37, Old Park Road,
Beauchief, Sheffield 8.

Tees-Side Parents & Friends of Spastics

W. Martin, Esq.,
76, Granville Road,
Grangetown,
Middlesbrough, Yorks.

York Parents Group

L. P. Day Esq.,
25, Malvern Avenue,
Acomb, Yorks.

REGIONAL OFFICERS

North Region

Roland Whyte Esq.,
National Spastics Society,
Trevelyan Chambers,
7, Boar Lane,
Leeds 1, Yorks.

South East Region

Simon Langley Esq.,
National Spastics Society,
137, Upper Grosvenor
Road,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

AREA CONTACTS

Falmouth

Mrs. M. D. Brookes,
West Cornwall Secretarial
Service,
Hull's Lane, Falmouth,
Cornwall.

Weymouth

Mrs. Bridle,
67, Broughton Crescent,
Wyke Regis,
Weymouth, Dorset.

Canterbury

Mr. and Mrs. Jones,
323, Sturry Road,
Canterbury.

Margate

Mr. and Mrs. McKnight,
36, St. Peter's Road,
Margate, Kent.

Whitstable

J. E. Tritton Esq.,
8, Plough Lane,
Swalecliffe, Whitstable.

Tenterden

Mrs. Dobbyn,
15, Heathside,
Appledore, Kent.

Dudley

H. Sutton Esq.,
Wyndways,
Elizabeth Grove,
Oakham, Dudley, Yorks.

Midland Spastics Association

W. Hobbins Esq.,
9, Docker Road,
Northfield,
Birmingham 31.

Huddersfield

P. V. Watkins Esq.,
8, Park Drive,
Huddersfield,
Yorks.

FURTHER AMENDMENTS WILL BE PUBLISHED

This list has been compiled from the latest information supplied by Groups to Headquarters. The complete list can only be published periodically, but in order to bring information up to date amendments will be printed in the News from time to time.

N.S.S. Headquarters appreciates the promptness of Groups in notifying changes as they occur.

NORTH REGION NOTES

Wardleworth Conservative Club at Rochdale has been holding a most successful series of concerts. It gave me great pleasure to accept a cheque for £80 on behalf of the Society.

CUMBERLAND, WESTMORLAND & FURNESS

Egremont Branch, inaugurated recently, has had its first meeting, and officers and committees have been appointed.

At Whitehaven, the Works Labour Manager of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority has promised assistance in conjunction with the Group's Appeal Week. The Authority's joint industrial committee is to see the N.S.S. film "Door to Freedom" and it is arranged that it will be shown in the Works, too.

STOCKPORT

The alterations now in progress at the Granville House centre are expected to be completed by September. From the third of that month a full-time school will operate for the higher grade ineducable Spastic children in the area.

The Group has been working very hard to raise funds for these alterations. It is estimated that these will cost about £2,000. It is hoped that an appeal to local business houses will help achieve this target.

The staff at Granville House will consist of a qualified schoolteacher,

one full-time and two part-time physiotherapists. In addition to this full-time school, it is also planned to open an occupational therapy centre for the lower-grade ineducable children. These

From
Roland Whyte
North Regional
Officer

will be under the tuition of a qualified occupational therapist.

At the Wilson-road premises belonging to the Group, handicraft classes are to be given to the educable Spastics. Many of these children receive home-teaching in the morning, and will be free to attend class in the afternoon.

WARRINGTON

Well over £100 was raised for the Group's funds from the sensational ladies football match. The Corinthian Ladies Team demolished the hopes of their opponents, the Northern Nomads, by winning 5-0. The Corinthians are just back from Portugal where they had a triumphant tour, raising £7,000 for the Red Cross.

Group members, assisted by friends, manned the gates and sold programmes.

thought, and good taste that has gone towards the making of this latest centre

from
Simon Langley
South East Regional
Officer

in the South East Region. Miss Vera Lynn is to open Hamilton House on Saturday, 6th July, and it is certain that

there will be crowds in Dukes Road on that day.

EAST KENT SPASTIC SOCIETY

It is with regret that I have to report that the East Kent Spastics Society has now ceased to function. At a meeting held early in June, a decision to close down was reached after a great deal of discussion. This does not mean, however, that the Spastics in this area will be without any help or organisation.

The various branches that formed the E.K.S.S. are to create new Groups based on the principal towns in East Kent, and it is hoped that they will all become strong members of the South East Region. Several engagements have already been made for me to speak and show the N.S.S. films at public meetings, etc, in this area, and I am anxious to give any further assistance that is possible to these new members of the South East Region.

The honorary officers of the E.K.S.S. will be continuing their work for Spastics by concentrating upon the Group in the town in which they happen to live. It is pleasant to realise that by this means we are not losing any of our old friends, but in actual fact we stand a very good chance of making many more by the fact that our activities will become even more widespread than before.

SOUTH-WEST SURREY

Earlier this month the Director and I were invited to inspect the centre run by the South-West Surrey Branch at Worplesden. After a most enjoyable afternoon, we both agreed that for happiness and honest endeavour this centre would take a lot of beating. Unfortunately, South-West Surrey are faced with an accommodation problem, and it is sincerely hoped that this will soon be solved.

REGIONAL COUNCIL

From the meeting of the Regional Council held in May a sub-committee was chosen to discuss, and to formulate, a possible programme of work for the Regional Council, and for me as Regional Officer. This sub-committee duly met, and the resultant suggested programmes are indeed comprehensive. There is a great need for information on many subjects to be collated at the Regional Office, and it will only be with the wholehearted assistance of the Groups that this can be achieved.

SOUTH EAST REGION NOTES

At long last the South East Region has its own permanent headquarters. 137, Upper Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, was officially acquired on the 19th June. (Telephone: Tunbridge Wells 20503). Now the South East Region has a real focal point from which its business can be conducted, and to which Groups can send their information and queries.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE

During the early days of June I was privileged to be shown the new centre, Hamilton House. Without doubt, the Brighton and Hove Branch deserve great praise for the amount of work,

NATIONAL SPASTICS SOCIETY CENTRES

NATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CENTRES

THE THOMAS DELARUE SCHOOL

Dene Park, Tonbridge, Kent.
Telephone: Tonbridge 3859.

Principal:

H. B. Davies Esq., B.Sc. (Econ.)

Chairman of the Board of Governors:

Douglas Delarue Esq., J.P.

Secondary Education for Spastics over 13 years.

Accommodation: 45.

IRTON HALL SCHOOL

Holmrook, Cumberland.

Telephone: Holmrook 42.

Principal:

A. Lubran, Esq., F.R.S.A., M.R.S.T.

Chairman of the Management

Committee:

Dr. T. Dowell.

Education for Spastics reputed to be below average intelligence.

Accommodation: 45.

THE "SHERRARDS" TRAINING CENTRE

Digswell Hill, Welwyn, Herts.

Telephone: Welwyn 2125.

Principal:

E. L. Knight, Esq.

Chairman of the Management

Committee:

The Hon. Mrs. David Bowes-Lyon.

Vocational Training Centre for young adult Spastics.

Accommodation: 25.

THE CRAIG-Y-PARC SCHOOL

Pentyrch, Nr. Cardiff.

Telephone: Pentyrch 397.

Headmistress:

Mrs. C. M. Kearslake.

Chairman of the Management

Committee:

Miss M. B. Jowett, M.B.E.

Primary Education for Spastics between 5 and 16 years.

Accommodation: 35.

HAWKSWORTH HALL

Guiseley, Nr. Bradford, Yorks.

Telephone: Menstone 114.

Headmistress:

Miss I. Spink, Dipl.Ed.

Chairman of the Management

Committee:

J. Hicks, Esq.

Assessment Centre for Spastics reputed to be below average intelligence.

Accommodation: 32.

PRESTED HALL

Feering, Kelvedon, Essex.

Telephone: Kelvedon 482.

Warden:

J. H. Watson, Esq.

Chairman of the Management

Committee:

Miss Mary Ruck, R.R.C.

Residential Centre for Spastics aged from 25 to 40 years.

Accommodation: 31.

THE WILFRED PICKLES SCHOOL

Tixover Grange, Duddington,

Nr. Stamford.

Telephone: Duddington 212.

Headmaster:

R. A. Pedder, Esq.

Chairman of the Management

Committee:

Eric Smith, Esq.

Primary Education for Spastics between 5 and 16 years.

Accommodation: 42. 8 Day Pupils.

COOMBE FARM RESIDENTIAL CENTRE

Oaks Road, Croydon, Surrey.

Telephone: Addiscombe 2310.

Warden:

F. W. Bowyer, Esq., M.A.

Chairman of the Management

Committee:

W. Noel-Jordan, Esq.

Residential Centre for Spastics aged from 16 to 25 years.

Accommodation: 33.

HOLIDAY HOME

The East London Group's Holiday Home — Write to: Miss M. Burden, Manageress, The Arundel Private Hotel, 23, The Leas, Westcliff-on-Sea. Telephone: Southend 476351.

LOCAL CENTRES AND CLINICS

In close co-operation with Local Authorities and/or Hospital Management Committees, the following Groups provide or assist special schools and/or treatment centres:

Coventry	Portsmouth
Hull	Reading
Northampton	Southend-on-Sea
Pontefract	Swindon

Working independently, the following Groups have set up special schools with treatment centres:

Birkenhead	Newcastle
Bolton	Plymouth

Operating entirely by voluntary contributions, the following Groups have treatment centres with or without nursery classes. Some of these Centres operate every day, others only part-time:

Bollington and Macclesfield	Liverpool
Bournemouth	Luton
Bridgwater	Norwich
Brighton	Sale
Croydon	South West Middlesex
Epping	South West Surrey
Gillingham	Stockport
Grimsby	Swansea
Ipswich	Wycombe and District
Urmston	York

The following Groups have, what might be termed, special occupation centres and, in some cases, treatment is available together with speech therapy:

Bristol	Leicester
Cheltenham	Southampton
Crewe	

What might be termed Welfare Departments, mainly designed to assist older Spastics, are operated by the following:

North Stafford (Stoke)	Huddersfield
Halifax	Spastics Society
	Widnes